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U. S. Department of Agriculture

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND THE 1937 CONSERVATION PROGRAM

A radio talk by A. W. Manchester, Director, Northeast Division, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, broadcast October 26, 1936, in the Department of Agriculture period of the National Farm and Home Hour, over NBC and a network of 52 associated radio stations.

--ooOoo--

I'll have to ask the pardon of the farmers in other sections of the country than the Northeast, for I want to use the Farm and Home Hour today for a brief talk with Northeastern farmers.

My reason for asking the attention of farmers in the Northeast is to urge them to attend and take part in the discussions at the county conferences on the 1937 agricultural conservation program. These meetings are now underway. I hope that every farmer in the Northeastern States in a county where a public meeting is still to be held will attend that meeting and speak his mind about the provisions which should be included in the 1937 program and the way in which it should be administered.

In the Northeast as in other sections of the country, the planning and the carrying through of the agricultural conservation program is a matter finally in the hands of the farm people -- the people who own and operate the land which is to be conserved.

Some of the meetings to plan for 1937 have already been held. The suggestions that have come out of them indicate that the people are wanting the program made more flexible so that it will better fit local conditions. Here's an example: Take the part of the conservation program which is concerned with replacing soil-depleting crops with soil-building crops. From the few meetings so far held, have come the suggestion that this part of the program be limited to definite actions and conditions specifying such practices as replacing grain and tilled crops on eroded hillsides with grass or forest trees, or planting a certain percentage of the more sloping and eroding vegetable lands in New Jersey or potato lands in the Aroostook with green manure and cover crops. The farmers gathered in the county meetings so far held have clearly indicated that their main purpose in planning for 1937 is to make sure that the agricultural conservation program hits the conservation nail square on the head.

Do the rest of you farm people in the Northeast feel the same way about it? Or do you feel differently? No matter how you feel or think, I hope you'll go to your county meeting, or if that is not possible get in touch with your county committee, express your feelings and thoughts, and play your part in framing the 1937 agricultural conservation program.

That's my comment for the farm people of the Northeastern States, Mr. Salisbury.

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THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The history of the United States of America is a story of a people who have built a great nation from a small colony. It is a story of the struggles and triumphs of a people who have fought for freedom and justice for all.

The story begins with the first settlers who came to the New World in search of a better life. They found a land of opportunity and a chance to build a new society.

As the years passed, the settlers grew in number and their influence grew. They fought for their rights and their freedom, and they built a nation that was the envy of the world.

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